

Message Text

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PAGE 01 EC BRU 00678 241724Z

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ACTION XMB-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-06 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00

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AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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PASS TREASURY AND EXIMBANK

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN, EEC

SUBJECT: NEGOTIATIONS ON EXPORT CREDIT GENTLEMEN'S AGREEMENT

REF: EC BRUSSELS 00305

1. SUMMARY: THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT HAS TOLD THE EC COMMISSION THAT IT IS NOT INTERESTED IN ANOTHER MEETING ON AN EXPORT CREDIT GENTLEMEN'S AGREEMENT AT THIS TIME. ONCE THE US HAS ADOPTED AN AGREED POSITION, DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS SHOULD BE USED TO DETERMINE IF IT IS WORTHWHILE TO HOLD ANOTHER MEETING. MRS. ARCHIBALD IS PREPARED TO COME TO WASHINGTON FOR AN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS. END SUMMARY.

2. MRS. ARCHIBALD OF THE EC COMMISSION INFORMED US TODAY OF THE JAPANESE RESPONSE TO THE EC'S PROPOSAL THAT A TECHNICAL LEVEL MEETING TO DISCUSS THE GENTLEMEN'S AGREEMENT BE HELD IN BRUSSELS ON FEBRUARY 26 AND 27 (REFTEL). MR. OYAKE, THE DIRECTOR OF THE BUREAU OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS, JAPANESE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, REPORTEDLY RESPONDED: "THE GOJ IS UN-

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PAGE 02 EC BRU 00678 241724Z

WILLING TO FIX A DATE FOR ANOTHER MEETING UNTIL THE AMERICANS

HAVE SORTED OUT THEIR INTERNAL DISAGREEMENTS AND HAVE REACHED A DEFINITE VIEW REGARDING THE PROPOSED AGREEMENT. ONLY AT THAT TIME SHOULD PRELIMINARY DISCUSSIONS THROUGH NORMAL DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS BE INTENSIFIED WITH A VIEW TO FINALIZING THE DATE FOR THE NEXT MEETING".

3. A JAPANESE EMBASSY OFFICER HERE CONFIRMED THE SUBSTANCE OF THIS REPLY. HE ADDED THAT THE GOJ BELIEVES NORMAL DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS SHOULD BE USED TO DISCUSS THE REMAINING OUTSTANDING PROBLEMS. A JOINT MEETING AT THIS TIME WOULD NOT BE USEFUL IN RESOLVING THESE PROBLEMS. PREPARATORY DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, HOWEVER, COULD LEAD TO A JOINT MEETING AT SOME FUTURE DATE.

4. THE NEXT EC WORKING GROUP MEETING ON EXPORT CREDITS WILL BE HELD ON JANUARY 28-29. MRS. ARCHIBALD WOULD BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS THE RESULTS OF THIS MEETING WITH INTERESTED WASHINGTON AGENCIES. SHE IS PREPARED TO VISIT WASHINGTON DURING THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 3. IF THE US IS INTERESTED IN SUCH AN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS, MRS. ARCHIBALD SUGGESTS THAT THE US INFORM THE EC OFFICE IN WASHINGTON OF ITS INTEREST IN THE PROPOSED VISIT AND THE DATES MRS. ARCHIBALD SHOULD PLAN ON BEING IN WASHINGTON.

5. ACTION REQUEST: WE WOULD APPRECIATE BEING INFORMED OF THE REACTION TO THIS PROPOSED VISIT. GREENWALD

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